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SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH, JR.

1. FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS (LOU)

FRASER HEARINGS MARCH 21 AND 22 FOCUSSED ON RELATIONSHIP OF TONGSUN PARK, RADIO FREE ASIA, AND KOREA CULTURAL AND FREEDOM FOUNDATION AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ROKG AND KCIA. MARCH 21 SESSION FEATURED TESTIMONY BY FORMER AND PRESENT USG OFFICIALS FROM JUSTICE, FBI AND AGRICULTURE, AND CONCENTRATED ON QUESTION OF WHY INVESTIGATIONS OF TONGSUN PARK IN 1971 FAILED TO PRODUCE RESULTS. RESPONSES PAINTED RATHER INCONCLUSIVE PICTURE OF LACK OF BUREAUCRATIC
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RIGOR RATHER THAN CONSCIOUS COVER UP OF KOREAN ACTIVITIES. AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL DESCRIBED HIS ABORTIVE EFFORTS TO DETERMINE IF TONGSUN PARK WAS ROKG AGENT.

MUCH OF MARCH 22 SESSION, DEVOTED TO PAK BO-HI, TAKEN UP WITH EXECUTIVE SESSION AND PAK'S READING OF 50-PAGE STATEMENT. PAK SAID HE HAS RESISTED INVESTIGATION,

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AFTER INITIAL COOPERATION, BECAUSE HE FEELS SUBCOMMITTEE IS NOT BEING OBJECTIVE AND IS ATTACKING UNIFICATION CHURCH. PAK ADMITTED THAT KOREAN CULTURAL AND FREEDOM FOUNDATION HAD RECEIVED MAILING LIST INFORMATION FROM KOREAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON AND THAT HE ONCE PASSED $3,000 FROM KCIA CHIEF IN WASHINGTON TO A JAPANESE WOMAN FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES. HE FIRMLY MAINTAINED THAT HE AND HIS ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING UNIFICATION CHURCH, ARE NOT CONNECTED IN ANY WAY.

2. POLICY ON THE EXPORT OF DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TO KOREA (CONF)

THE PROCESS OF FORMULATING A COMPREHENSIVE USG POLICY ON THIS QUESTION IS PROCEEDING. DR. PERRY OF DOD IS PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON A REPORT, INCLUDING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, STEMMING FROM HIS RECENT KOREAN TRIP. WE ANTICIPATE THAT IN THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO PERRY WILL BRIEF STATE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING POLICY LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM EA AND PM, ON HIS RECOMMENDATIONS. THIS WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH WILL THEN LEAD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATION POSITION.

3. TEAM SPIRIT COMPLETED (UNCL)

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EXERCISE TEAM SPIRIT '78 WAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED MARCH 17. BOTH KOREAN AND US COMMANDERS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THIS MAJOR EXERCISE IN THE AUGMENTATION OF ALLIED FORCES IN KOREA, AND WITH THE EXCELLENT COOPERATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN US AND KOREAN UNITS IN THE FIELD. THIS WAS THE THIRD AND LARGEST IN THE SERIES OF ANNUAL TEAM SPIRIT EXERCISES, AND ITS RELEVANCE TO OUR WITHDRAWAL DECISION WAS CLEAR BOTH TO OUR ALLIES AND TO NORTH KOREA. SECRETARY DUNCAN'S OBSERVATION OF SOME OF THE EXERCISES'S MAJOR SEGMENTS ENHANCED ITS VALUE AS A SYMBOL OF OUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO KOREAN SECURITY.

4. POSSIBLE MESSAGE FROM KIM IL-SONG (CONF)

EMBASSY BUCHAREST HAS REPORTED A LOCAL RUMOR, ORIGINATING AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS, THAT ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU MAY CARRY A MESSAGE FROM KIM IL-SONG TO PRESIDENT CARTER WHEN HE COMES TO WASHINGTON IN MID-APRIL. WE BELIEVE THAT ALTHOUGH THIS IS A POSSIBILITY, WE SEE NO SIGNS OF CHANGE IN THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION. THEY PROBABLY WILL ASK THE ROMANIANS

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TO PRESS FOR BILATERAL TALKS EXCLUDING THE SOUTH KOREANS AND MAY REPEAT AN EARLIER OFFER TO TALK WITH THE SOUTH KOREANS, BUT ONLY AFTER THE REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT PARK.

WE ARE PREPARING BRIEFING PAPERS FOR THE VISIT.

5. DEMONSTRATION SEASON (LOU)

WITH THE ADVENT OF WARMER WEATHER WE EXPECT TO SEE A FEW DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE ROKG, AT THE EMBASSY AND POSSIBLY HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT. THE FBI REPORTS THAT A LOCAL GROUP, ORGANIZED BY AN ANTI-ROKG NEWSPAPER CONFIDENTIAL

EDITOR, PLANS TO DEMONSTRATE AT THE EMBASSY SOMETIME IN APRIL.

6. NORTH KOREANS CANCEL MARCH NORTH-SOUTH RED CROSS MEETING (LOU)

WITH A CLAIM THAT THE TEAM SPIRIT EXERCISE MADE MEETING WITH THEIR SOUTHERN COUNTERPARTS IMPOSSIBLE, THE NORTH KOREANS FAILED TO SHOW UP FOR A SCHEDULED MARCH 20 MEETING AT PANMUNJOM. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE THE NIGHT BEFORE OVER PYONGYANG RADIO, AND SINCE THE NORTH HAS BEEN UNWILLING TO USE THE NORTH-SOUTH TELEPHONE HOTLINE, SOUTH KOREANS BELIEVE THAT THE LAST REMAINING LOW-LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE NORTH HAVE BEEN ADJOURNED INDEFINITELY.
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